

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: TAKABAYASHI et al. Conf.: 7444

Appl. No.: 09/974,853 Group: 1771

Filed: October 12, 2001 Examiner: TORRES VELAZQUEZ

For: CLEANING SHEET

REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

August 5, 2003

PATENT

RECEIVEL TC 1700

0445-0310

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated May 19, 2003, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

The amendments presented herein comply with the "Revised Amendment Format" as set forth in the Official Gazette Notice dated February 25, 2003. In accordance with the Notice, the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(a)-(d) are waived.